DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 252 140 HE 017 978

AUTHOR Moseley, James L.
TITLE A Pilot Family Practice Clerkship for Third and Fourth Year Students.
PUB DATE 84
NOTE 11p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Clinical Teaching (Health Professions); *Family Practice (Medicine); Higher Education; *Medical Students; *Primary Health Care; *Student Experience; Teaching Hospitals

ABSTRACT

A clinical clerkship that provides medical students the opportunity to learn side by side with family practice residents is described. Clerkship objectives are to expose the student to: a variety of health care settings with the individual and family as the primary focus; ambulatory care of patients with conditions commonly seen by family physicians; the care of the hospitalized patient and the appropriate use of consultants and ancillary services; the utilization of the team approach; and principles of office management. Third- and fourth-year medical students spend 3 half-days per week for 1 month in the Ambulatory Care Family Practice Center of Wayne State University. They also spend time in hospitalized patient care, a long-term geriatric facility, and community agencies. Directed study is also provided, and students are expected to participate in departmental activities (grand rounds, interdisciplinary rounds, and seminars). An additional component is the student projects that are outgrowths of experiences in the Family Practice Center or the hospital. Program evaluations have indicated that students find the clerkship a valuable alternative learning experience to established preceptorship rotation. An average schedule for a typical four-week clerkship is included. (SW)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED252140

A PILOT FAMILY PRACTICE CLERKSHIP FOR THIRD AND FOURTH YEAR STUDENTS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official NIE position or policy

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

James L Moseley

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

NE 017 978

James L. Moseley, Ed.D.

Wayne State University
School of Medicine
Department of Family Medicine
Detroit, Michigan 48201

ABSTRACT

The clinical clerkship described below is an incremental approach to providing increasing numbers of medical students with opportunities to learn side by side with family practice residents. Third and fourth year medical students spend three half-days per week for one month in the Ambulatory Care Family Practice Center of Wayne State University. Other time is spent in hospitalized patient care, in a long-term geriatric care facility, and in community agencies. Students also have time for directed study. Students are expected to participate in departmental activities (grand rounds, interdisciplinary rounds, seminars, etc.) and complete two projects which are an outgrowth of their experiences in the Family Practice Center or in the hospital. Judging from the program evaluations, students have found the clerkship a valuable alternative learning experience to the established preceptorship rotation.

In order to provide greater flexibility in curricular choice in third and fourth year clinical training, Wayne State University's Department of Family Medicine has instituted a family medicine clerkship. For third year medical students the Family Medicine Clerkship is an alternative to the Cooperative Michigan Primary Care Preceptorship Program, a joint effort of Michigan's three medical schools. (Either program may be elected to fulfill the Year III required family medicine rotation at Wayne State.) The clerkship is an elective experience for fourth year medical students.

CLERKSHIP GOALS:

Now in its second year the clerkship is intended to accomplish the following: (1) exposure to a variety of health care settings with the individual and the family as the primary focus; (2) experience in the ambulatory care of patients with problems and/or conditions commonly seen by family physicians; (3) exposure to the care of the hospitalized patient and the appropriate use of consultants, ancillary services, and community resources; (4) introduction to the utilization of the team approach to health care; (5) introduction to the principles of office management.

NATURE OF CLERKSHIP:

The clerkship maintains a degree of flexibility which allows for a design based on individual student needs and interests.[1,2] An average schedule of a typical four week clerkship is shown in Figure 1.

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00-9:00	M O R N I N G	R E P O R T	A N D	W A R D	W O R K (H O S P I T A L)
9:00-12:00	Ambulatory Care Family Practice Center	Ambulatory Care Family Practice Center	Family Medicine Teaching Rounds (Hospital)	Ambulatory Care Family Practice Center	Interdisciplinary Rounds and Family Medicine Teaching Rounds (Hospital)
12:00-1:00		Journal Club			
1:00-5:00	Family Medicine Ward Work (Hospital)	Community Experience (Visits to Community Health Agencies)	Directed Study	Boulevard Temple Methodist Retirement Community	Community Experience (Visits to Community Health Agencies)
5:00-6:00				Family Practice Clinical Care Review - Family Practice Center	

FIGURE 1: Typical Week's Schedule

Approximately 35% of the time is spent in the Family Practice Center, the ambulatory care facility of Wayne State University. Here students learn first hand the nature of personalized, comprehensive, continuous primary care. Students spend 30% of their time with hospitalized patient care in the twenty-five bed Family Practice Ward at Harper-Grace Hospitals. Here they interact with faculty, residents, and a wide variety of other health care providers while following patients. Students spend 10% of their rotation in a long term geriatric care facility. Under faculty supervision students learn skills required for geriatric care at the Boulevard Temple Methodist Retirement Community, a residence and nursing care facility for the aged located in close proximity to the Detroit Medical Center. Approximately 15% of a student's time is spent in visits to community agencies. Service agencies are selected so as to broaden contact with important health related agencies not ordinarily encountered in the traditional medical school curriculum. Typical agencies where students have indicated positive learning experiences are Well-Being Services for the Aged, a division of the Visiting Nurses Association, Family Health Service of Detroit and Wayne County, and the Detroit General Hospital Psychiatric Crisis Center, an inpatient alcohol detoxification unit. To round out the program, students are encouraged to devote 10% of their time in directed study activities. These take a variety of forms: journal readings on assigned topics common to a family

practice (pharyngitis, hypertension, back pain, diabetes, bronchitis, vaginitis, obesity, etc.), selected basic and clinical science lectures, and audio-visual presentations. There are also many supplementary experiences, such as, attendance at monthly family practice grand rounds, attendance at either a behavioral science or a community medicine Saturday seminar, journal club, and the completion of two written projects focusing on the family or the community as a focus for health care delivery. The projects are an outgrowth of student experience in the Family Practice Center or in the hospital. Figure 2 summarizes in topical form typical learning experiences.

EVALUATION

To date, eleven Year III and six Year IV students have experienced the clerkship. In addition to a successful clinical evaluation from each physician with whom they have worked, all third year students must pass a written examination (multiple choice and patient management problems) to complete the required family medicine rotation. Fourth year students must receive successful evaluations from their physician preceptors. Students are evaluated on Diagnostic Ability, Motivation, Sense of Responsibility, Oral-Verbal Ability, Effectiveness with Patients, Ability to Take a History and to a Physical Examination, and Cooperation with Personnel. Preceptors are encouraged to write descriptive comments.

All students are required to complete a program evaluation of their clerkship activities. Typical questions asked of them are:

FIGURE 2: Clerkship Learning Experiences

AMBULATORY MANAGEMENT OF ILLNESS

Familiarization with problems and symptom complexes commonly managed by family physicians in office practice.

Familiarization with practical and effective use of P.O.M.R. in care of ambulatory patients.

Supervised experience in providing care in the family practice center.

Appreciation of role of family practitioner as a career model.

Involvement with team approach to family medicine.

Introduction to the principles of preventive health care.

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT OF ILLNESS

Familiarization with problems and symptom complexes commonly managed by family physicians in a hospital setting.

Familiarization with practical and effective use of P.O.M.R. in care of hospitalized patients.

Utilization of resources of community hospitals for patient care.

Process of joining a hospital staff and obtaining hospital privileges.

Trace care of patient admitted from Family Practice Center to hospital and back to home setting.

EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

Familiarization with different philosophies and methodologies for organizing and operating extended care facilities.

Exploration of manner and degree to which family physician uses extended care facilities.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Familiarization with community resources of a designated geographical area.

Involvement of students with various medical or surgical specialties, health disciplines and community resources.

SELF STUDY

Encouragement in reading and reviewing instructional materials dealing with common problems seen in office practice.

Attendance at conferences, lectures, rounds pertinent to family practice health care delivery.

ANCILLARY EXPERIENCES

Introduction of office management concepts.

Efficient utilization of support personnel.

1. Describe the type of medical activities in which you were involved.
2. Did you feel you were part of the medical team?
3. Do you feel you had adequate faculty and staff supervision?
4. Did you feel that the non-clinical activities facilitated your learning experience?
5. Did this experience meet the objectives as outlined? If not, how could it better fulfill these objectives?
6. Did this experience fulfill your expectations and would you recommend it to your fellow classmates?
7. As you see it, what are the assets of a clerkship experience?

Of particular significance are responses to question 7 above (As you see it, what are the assets of a clerkship experience?):

"Great exposure to ambulatory care."

"Student works with a variety of patients."

"Humanistic approach to medicine."

"Opportunity to experience office practice management"

"Exposure to a variety of health care personnel."

SUMMARY

The Family Medicine Clerkship at Wayne State University provides exposure to the range of health care activities in which family physicians participate. It is available to students on either an

alternative or elective basis. It is goal oriented yet flexible to provide for individual learning needs and experiences. As demand for the clerkship increases, students will be placed in community hospital-based family practice residencies under the supervision of Residency Directors holding clinical faculty appointments in the Wayne State University Department of Family Medicine.

The program described above is an incremental approach to providing increasing numbers of medical students with opportunities to learn side by side with family practice residents. It is our expectation that, over time, it will be recognized as a more effective method for orienting medical students to the goals and philosophy of modern family medicine than the less structured preceptorship.

REFERENCES

1. Eary, L.E., Kobernick, M., Vanderwagen, W.C.: Pilot experience of a family practice-based combined clerkship. J. Fam. Pract. 7:541, 1978

2. Scutchfield, F.D., Ratcliffe, A.A.: Family medicine in the undergraduate medical curriculum. J. Fam. Pract. 7:531, 1978.